

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM

NR Eligible: yes
no ☒

Property Name: Tenant House # 1 Inventory Number: WI-549

Address: Pratt Road City: Salisbury Zip Code: _____

County: Wicomico USGS Topographic Map: Eden Quadrangle

Owner: Quinton Johnson, PO Box 195, Hebron MD 21830

Tax Parcel Number: 316 Tax Map Number: 36 Tax Account ID Number: 2302007150

Project: North Upper Ferry Rd Agency: Maryland State Highway Administration

Site visit by MHT Staff: ___no___yes___ Name: _____ Date: _____

Eligibility recommended ___ Eligibility **not** recommended X

Criteria: ___A___B___C___D Considerations: ___A___B___C___D___E___F___G___None

Is the property located within a historic district? Xno___yes___ Name of district: _____

Is district listed? ___no___yes___ Determined eligible? ___no___yes___ District Inventory Number: _____

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Fiedel, Cheek and Culhane, 2000, Phase I Archeological and historic Architectural Inventory Survey, North Upper Ferry Road Project, Wicomico County, Maryland. John Milner Associates, Inc.

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)

This abandoned early twentieth century tenant house is located along Pratt Road west of Hounds Bay Circle. The house is overgrown and in the advanced stages of ruin. The house stands side-by-side with a second tenant house on the north side of the road. Both are two-story, single-pile, side-gabled frame structures with interior chimneys. Tenant House #1 is three-bays-wide. The remaining windows are 6/6 wood sashes. The house rests on brick piers laid in a stretcher bond. The house was originally sided in wood clapboard, but was refaced in asbestos shingles. Large gable-roofed canopies shade the single-leaf doors openings. The interior was inspected. Most of the wallboard has been smashed and vandalized; most of the fixtures and all of the woodwork has been removed; however the remaining evidence suggests an early-twentieth-century construction date, possibly between 1910 and 1930. Problematically, the house does not appear on the 1942 USGS topographical quad of the area. Behind (north) of both tenant houses are two shed-roofed frame structures; one is clearly a double privy while the second, in ruins, may have been a chicken house. Tenant House #2 is a typically modest early twentieth century vernacular domestic structures.. It is not associated with important individuals or events in history, and is not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Prepared by: Charles L. Hall/Kerri E. Culhane

Date Prepared: 3/19/01

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended ___	Eligibility not recommended <u>X</u>
Criteria: ___A___B___C___D	Considerations: ___A___B___C___D___E___F___G___None
Comments: _____	
<u>Andrew Levin</u> Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	<u>06/05/01</u> Date
<u>Blumentz</u> Reviewer, NR program	<u>6/7/01</u> Date

Inventory No. WI-549

7. Description

Inventory No. WI-549

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This abandoned early twentieth century tenant house is located along Pratt Road west of Hounds Bay Circle. The house is overgrown and in the advanced stages of ruin. The house stands side-by-side with a second tenant house on the north side of the road. Both are two-story, single-pile, side-gabled frame structures with interior chimneys. Tenant house #1 (WI-549), to the west of Tenant House #2 (WI-550) is three-bays-wide, while Tenant House #2 is two-bays-wide. The remaining windows are 6/6 wood sashes. The houses rest on brick piers laid in a stretcher bond. The houses were originally sided in wood clapboard, but were refaced in asbestos shingles. Large gable-roofed canopies shade the single-leaf doors openings. The interiors were inspected. Most of the wallboard has been smashed and vandalized; most of the fixtures and all of the woodwork has been removed; however the remaining evidence suggests an early-twentieth-century construction date, possibly between 1910 and 1930. Problematically, neither house appears on the 1942 USGS topographical quad of the area. Behind (north) of the houses are two shed-roofed frame structures; one is clearly a double privy while the second, in ruins, may have been a chicken house. Both houses are typically modest early twentieth century vernacular domestic structures..

8. Significance

Inventory No. WI-549

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates

Architect/Builder unknown

Construction dates ca.1915-1925

Evaluation for:

☒ National Register

☒ Maryland Register

☐ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Statement of Significance

Tenant House #1 is a typically modest early twentieth century vernacular domestic structure. It is not significant architecturally, nor does it retain architectural integrity. It is not known to have been associated with people or events significant to local, state, or national history, and in its current state of dilapidation, it is not adequately illustrative of tenant occupations of the Eastern Shore. Therefore, Tenant House #1 does not satisfy any of the National Register Criteria and therefore is not recommended for inclusion in the Maryland or National Registers.

Historic Context

Wicomico County was formed in 1867 from northern portions of Somerset and Worcester Counties. This region has been agricultural in character since its settlement in the seventeenth century. The late twentieth century, however, has been characterized by a loss of farmland and the growth of suburban development. As Salisbury, the county seat expands and the economy shifts from agriculture-based to commerce- and industry-based, the replacement of farm fields by housing units intensifies. New roads are built and old roads are enlarged or expanded to serve the changing and growing population, dramatically altering the character of the once-rural community.

The navigable Wicomico River has enabled settlement to occur along its banks since the seventeenth century. Tobacco, grain, and produce culture have been practiced successively on the land. As was typical of colonial settlement, major houses and plantations were built along the transportation routes, in this case the Wicomico River, while tenants and small-scale farmers occupied interior, less accessible and thus less valuable land. At some point in the mid-seventeenth century the Upper Ferry was inaugurated (Cooper 1991:251-253). The first Presbyterian meeting house was established near the ferry landing in 1706. In 1727, the county mandated the construction of a road to be maintained to the Upper Ferry, officially establishing the ferry landing as an access point for both transshipment of goods and for settlement (Slemmons n.d.:3; Torrence 1979:359).

Around the turn of the eighteenth century, three hundred acres of land were held by Joseph Venables under the patent "What You Please" in the vicinity of the Upper Ferry, and including the Upper Ferry landing (Slemmons n.d.:3). This land was passed to his son, Benjamin, after Venables' death in 1717. It is unclear from the land records whether Venables' land encompassed the land on which the tenant house stands, but it is likely. Irrespective of ownership, the land was certainly cultivated. Eighteenth-century tax documents from the Wicomico Hundred district of Somerset County describe earth-fast corn houses, storehouses, and log dwellings scattered throughout the Upper Ferry vicinity (Somerset Tax Roll 1798). Tax documents also indicate the types of substantial dwellings constructed in the area. Along the river at the Upper Ferry was a hip-roofed brick dwelling and numerous outbuildings belonging to William Anderson. The tax documents confirm that the major domestic structures and occupations were located along the river.

The late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries were a transitional period in agriculture. The pre-emancipation slave economy enabled farmers to work large, labor-intensive tracts of land at a minimum cost. In the post-war era, advances in agriculture coincided

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. WI-549

Tenant House #1
Continuation Sheet

Number 8/9 Page 1

with advances in the transportation of fresh produce, and truck farming became prevalent on the Eastern Shore. The Eastern Shore Railroad served Salisbury starting in the 1860s, and soon fresh produce was expedited to markets along the eastern seaboard. The farms in the area appear to fit into the pattern of Eastern Shore agricultural transition from slave to tenant farming, share-cropping, and ultimately farm abandonment in the late-twentieth-century.

9. Bibliographical References (Continued)

Taylor-White, Rebecca. Personal communication. Mrs. Taylor-White is knowledgeable about local history and was interviewed at her home on 29 June.

Torrance, Clayton. 1979. *Old Somerset on the Eastern Shore of Maryland*. Regional Publishing, Baltimore, Maryland.

United States Bureau of the Census. 1850-1870. Enumeration of Somerset County, Maryland. On file at the Nabb Research Center, Salisbury State University, Salisbury, Maryland.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Cooper, Richard. 1991. *Salisbury in Times Gone By*. Baltimore, Maryland: Regional Publishing.
Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson. 1877. *Atlas of the Eastern Shore*. Copy on file in the Maryland Historical Trust Library and Archives, Crownsville, Maryland.
Slemons, Mrs. J. William. n.d. The Wicomico Presbyterian Church, Salisbury, Maryland, 1683-1959. Copy on file at the Nabb Research Center, Salisbury State University, Salisbury, Maryland.
Somerset County Tax Rolls. 1798. Wicomico Hundred, List of Lands, lots, buildings and wharves. Available on microfilm at the Nabb Research Center, Salisbury State University, Salisbury, Maryland.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property	<u>1.05 acres</u>	
Acreage of historical setting	<u>unknown</u>	
Quadrangle name	<u>Eden 7.5'</u>	Quadrangle scale: <u>1:24,000</u>

Verbal boundary description and justification

The tenant house sits abandoned along the north side of Pratt Road west of Hound's Bay Circle. Surveyed property corresponds to the current tax parcel, Map 36, grid 24, parcel 316.

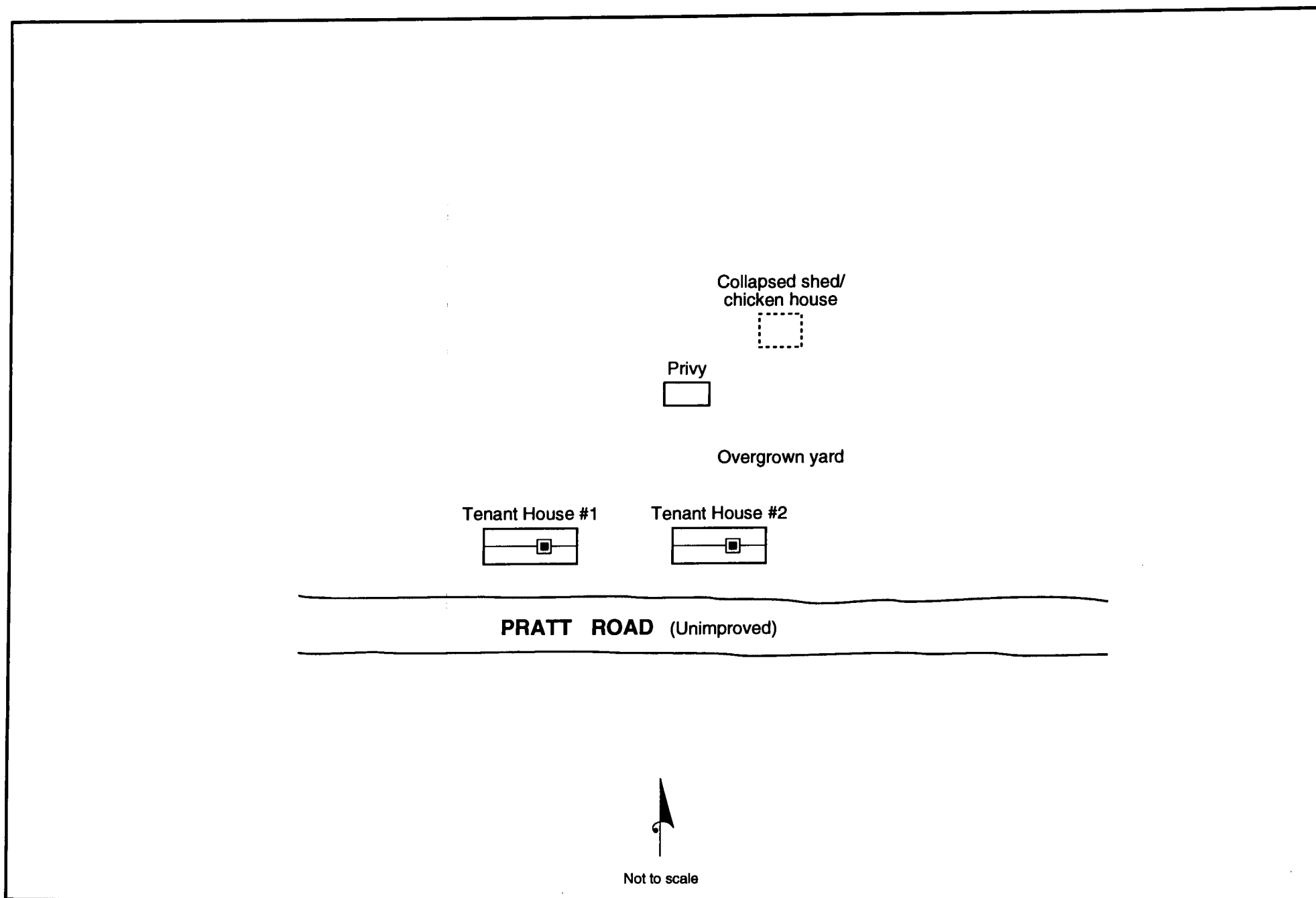
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Kerri Culhane		
organization	John Milner Associates, Inc.	date	8/2000
street & number	5250 Cherokee Avenue, Suite 300	telephone	703/354-9737
city or town	Alexandria	state	VA

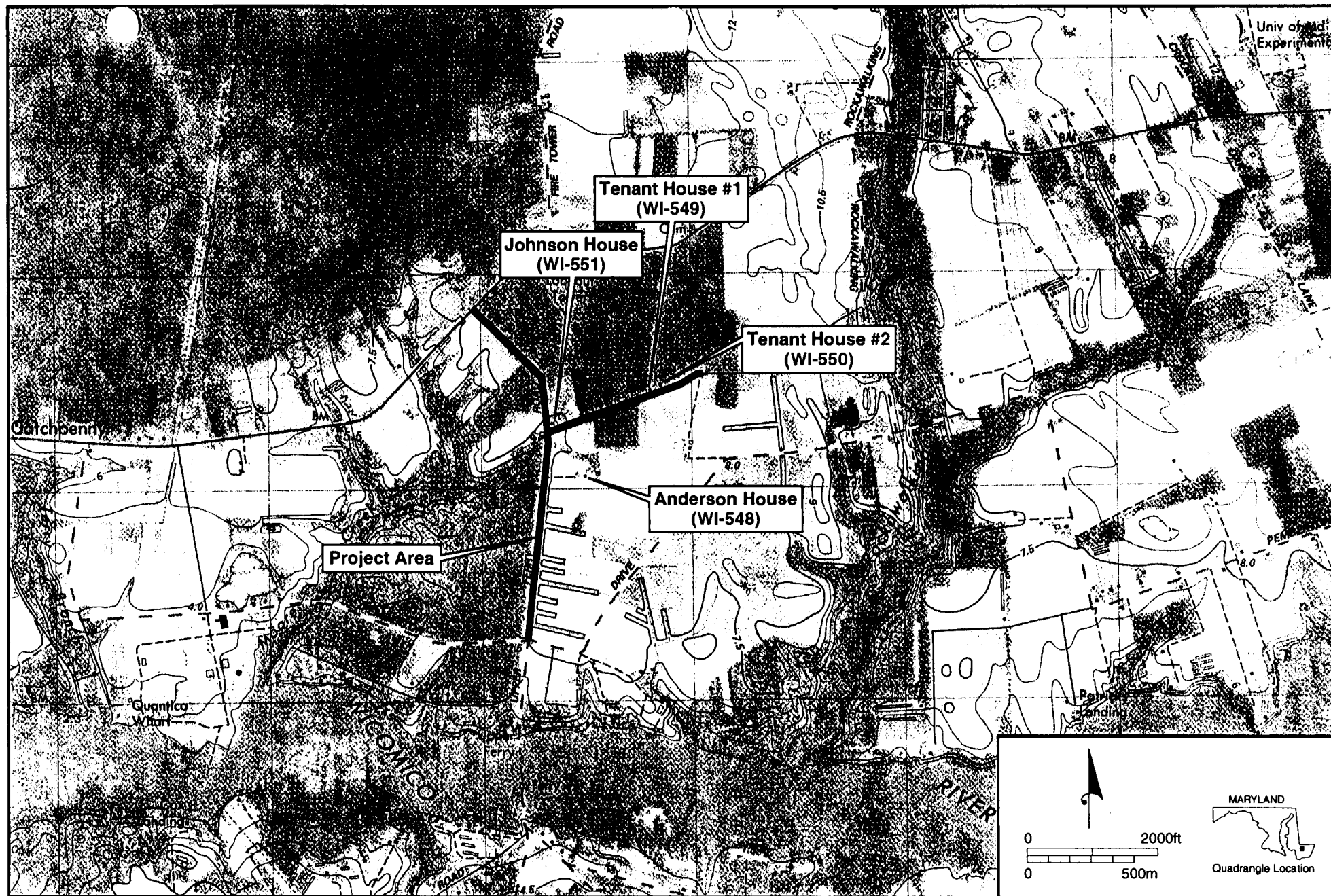
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



Tenant Houses 1 and 2 (WI-549 and WI-550), site plan.



Location of project area on USGS 1983 *Eden, MD*, 7.5-minute quadrangle, showing standing structures assessed in architectural survey.



WI-549

Veranda House #1, North Pond

Salisbury, MD

Wicomico Co, MD

K. Culligan

July 2000

MDSTPO

PROCESSED BY THE
STATE OF MARYLAND

Rear entrance detail, view to South



W1-549

tenant house #1, Pratt Rd.

Salisbury Vic.

Uncomitee Co, MD

K Culhane

July 2000

MDSTPO

PHOTOGRAPHED BY
293 WILL STREET 19220000

Roof view to South



WI-549

Tenant House #1, Pratt Rd

Salisbury, NC.

Wicomico Co., MD

K. Culhane

July 2000

MD SHPO

View to northeast (west gable)

PROTECTED BY
705 0711 0000 2000 2000



W1-549

Tenant House #1, Pratt Road
Salisbury VIC.

Wicomico Co, MD

K. Culhane

July 2000

MDSTPO

View to east / South east (west gable)

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